FIG. 1

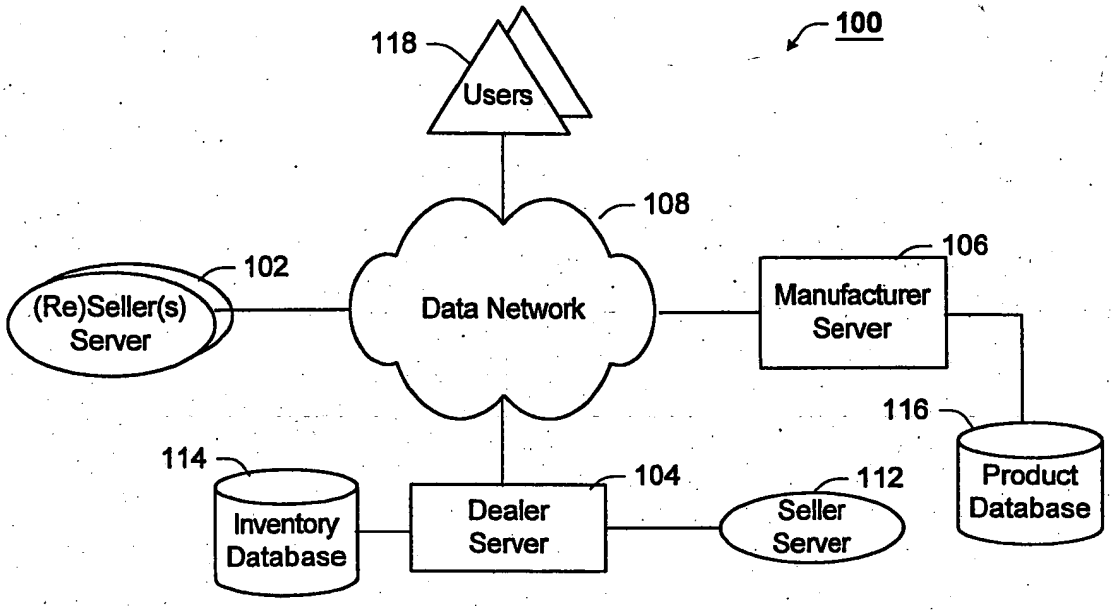

100
118
Users
108
102
(Re)Seller(s) Server
Data Network
106
Manufacturer Server
116
Product Database
114
Inventory Database
104
Dealer Server
112
Seller Server

FIG. 2

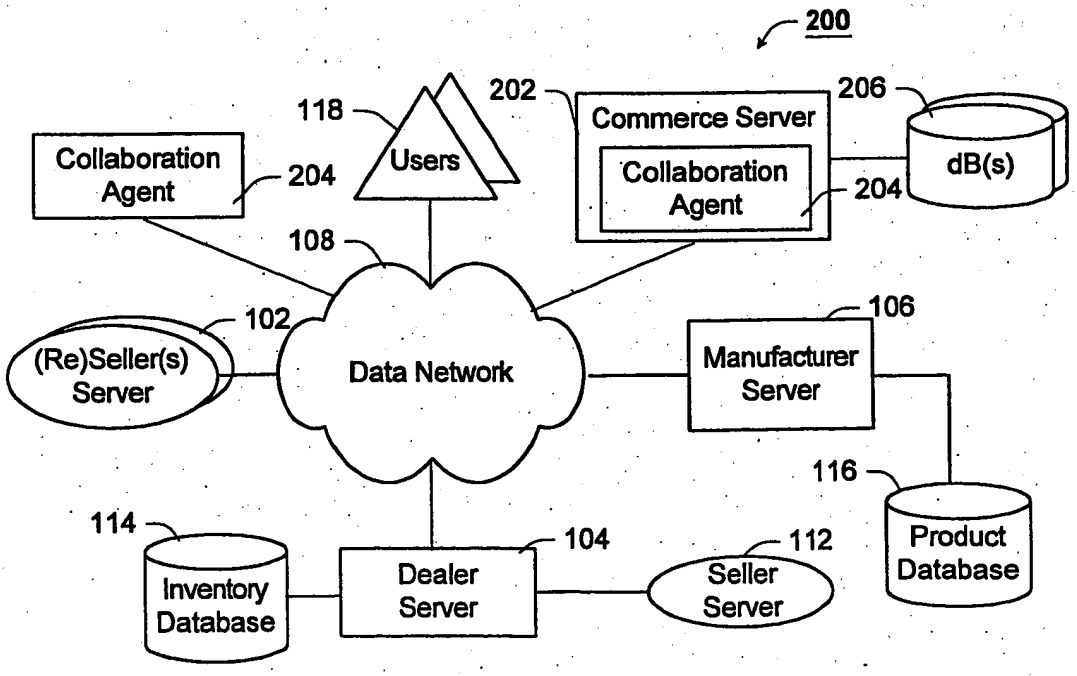

200
118
Users
202
Commerce Server
206
dB(s)
Collaboration Agent
204
Collaboration Agent
204
108
102
(Re)Seller(s) Server
Data Network
106
Manufacturer Server
116
Product Database
114
Inventory Database
104
Dealer Server
112
Seller Server

FIG. 4

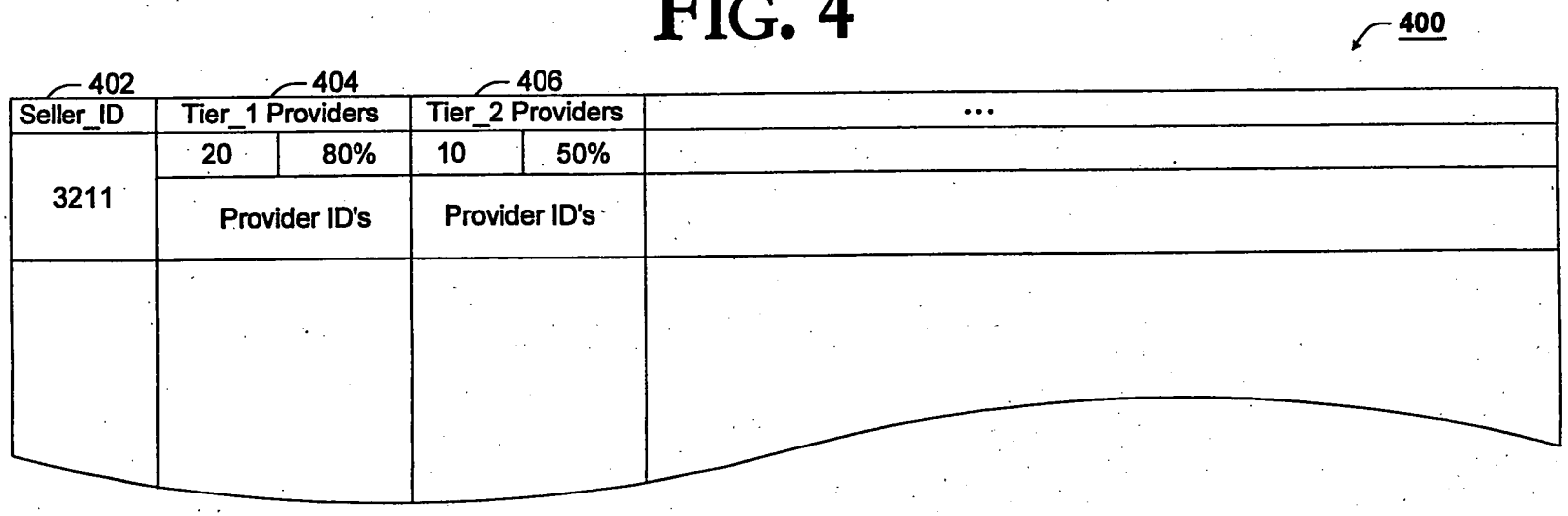

400
402
404
406
Seller_ID
Tier_1 Providers
Tier_2 Providers
...
20
80%
10
50%
3211
Provider ID's
Provider ID's

FIG. 5

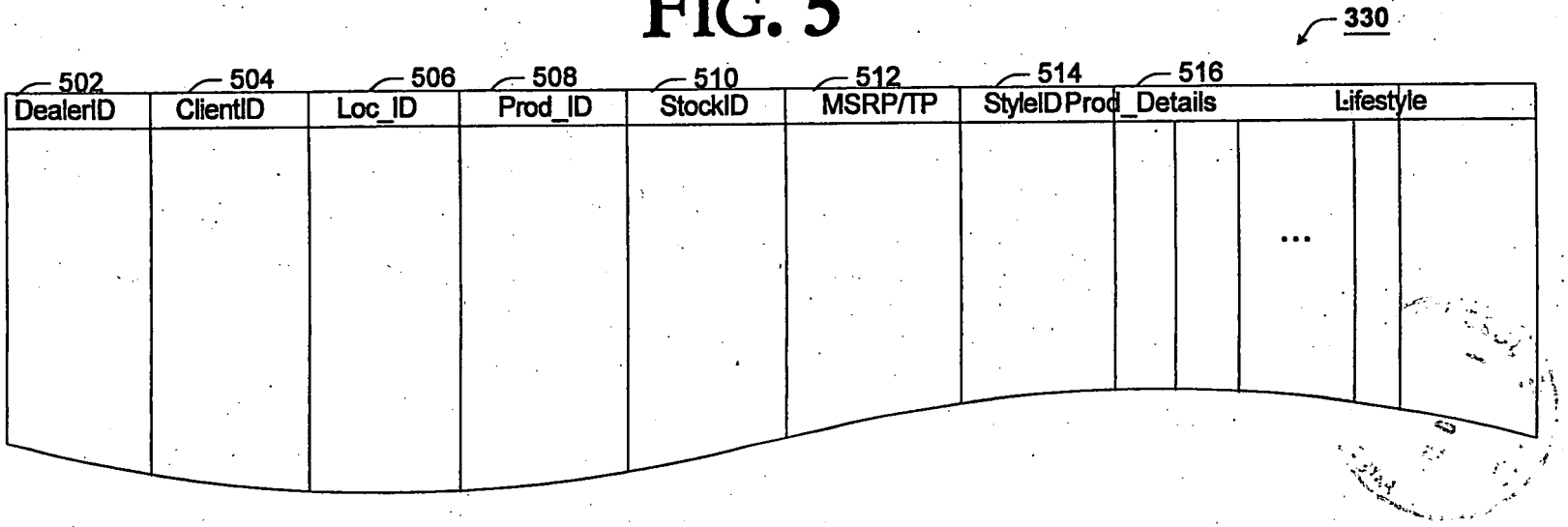

330
502
504
506
508
510
512
514
516
DealerID
ClientID
Loc_ID
Prod_ID
StockID
MSRP/TP
StyleID
Prod_Details
Lifestyle
...

FIG. 3

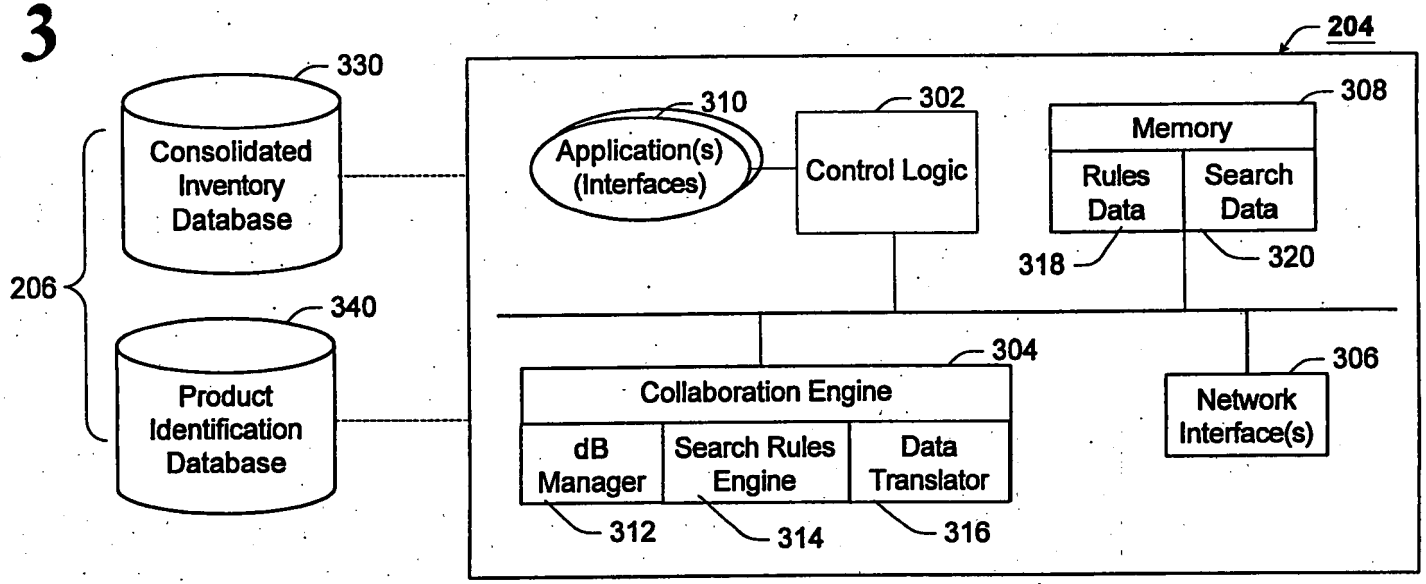

204
330
Consolidated Inventory Database
206
340
Product Identification Database
310
Application(s) (Interfaces)
302
Control Logic
308
Memory
Rules Data
Search Data
318
320
304
Collaboration Engine
dB Manager
Search Rules Engine
Data Translator
312
314
316
306
Network Interface(s)

FIG. 16

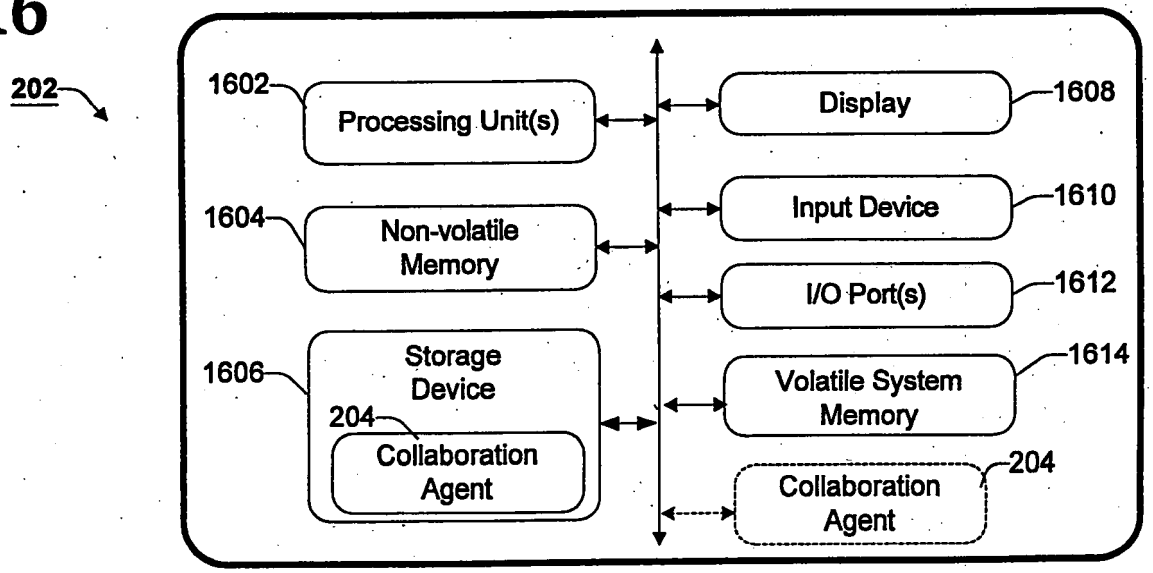

202
1602
Processing Unit(s)
1604
Non-volatile Memory
1606
Storage Device
204
Collaboration Agent
Display
1608
Input Device
1610
I/O Port(s)
1612
Volatile System Memory
1614
Collaboration Agent
204

FIG. 8

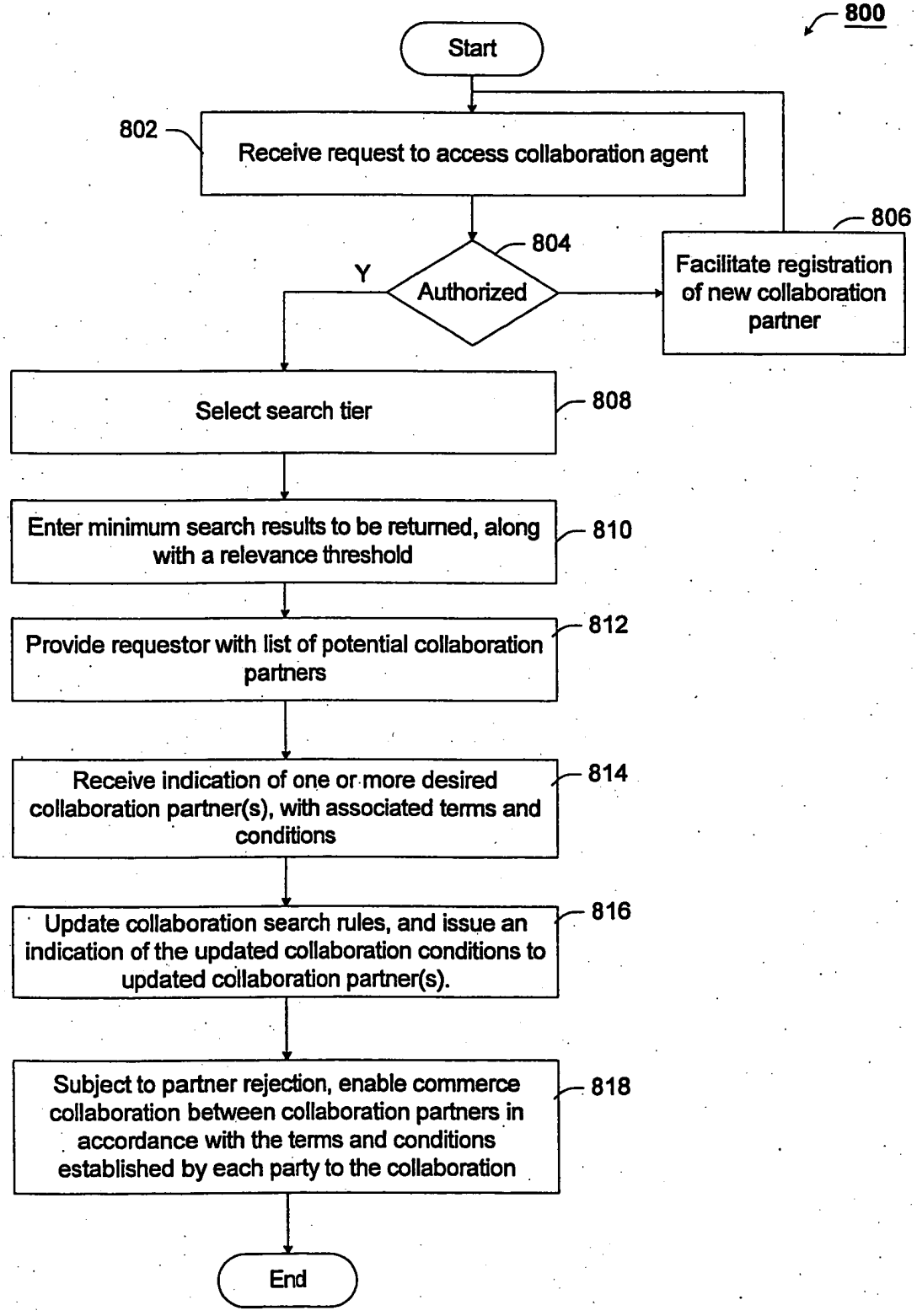

800
Start
802
Receive request to access collaboration agent
804
Authorized
Y
806
Facilitate registration of new collaboration partner
Select search tier
808
Enter minimum search results to be returned, along with a relevance threshold
810
Provide requestor with list of potential collaboration partners
812
Receive indication of one or more desired collaboration partner(s), with associated terms and conditions
814
Update collaboration search rules, and issue an indication of the updated collaboration conditions to updated collaboration partner(s).
816
Subject to partner rejection, enable commerce collaboration between collaboration partners in accordance with the terms and conditions established by each party to the collaboration
818
End

FIG. 6

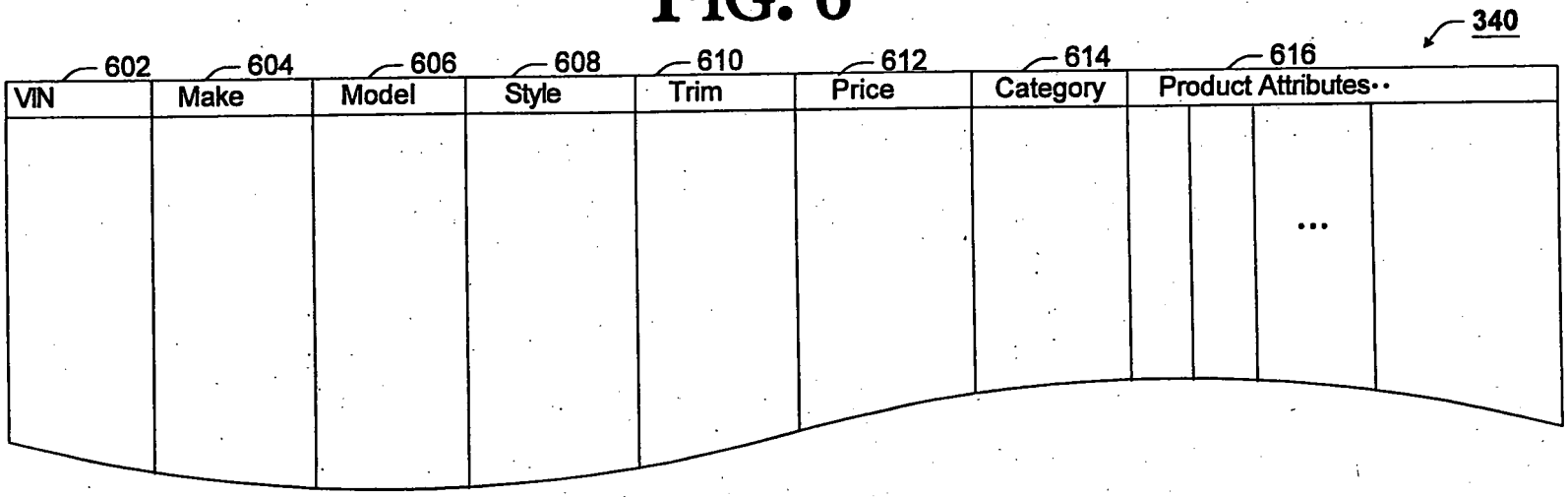

340
602
VIN
604
Make
606
Model
608
Style
610
Trim
612
Price
614
Category
616
Product Attributes
...

FIG. 7

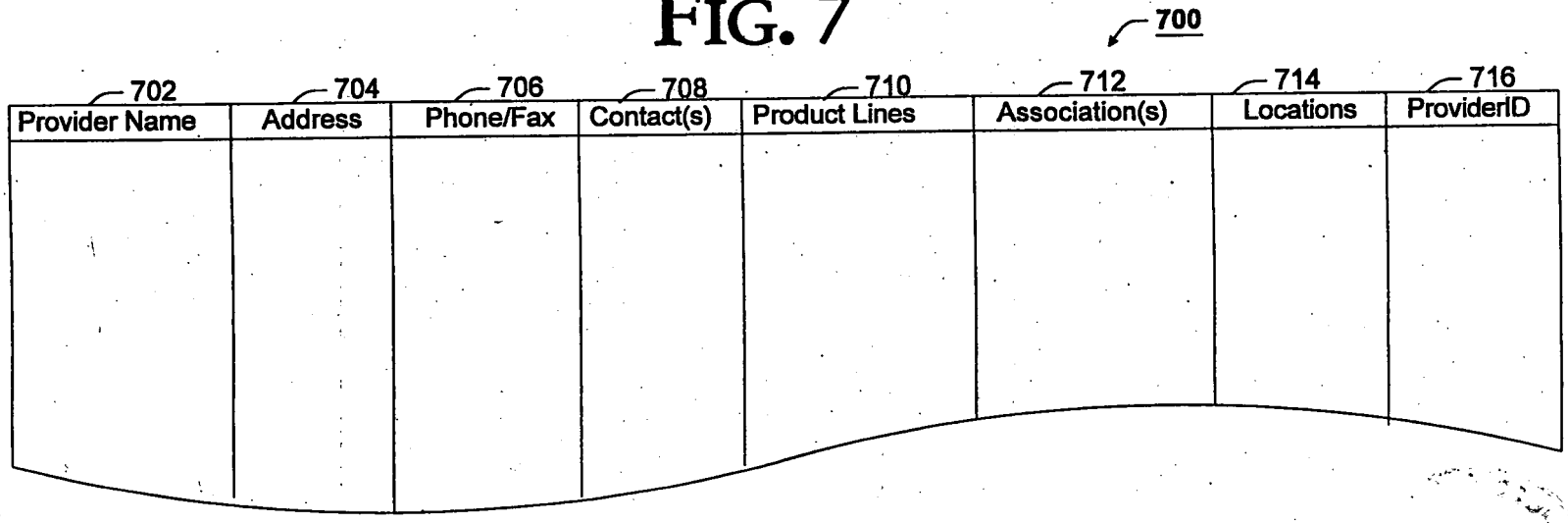

700
702
Provider Name
704
Address
706
Phone/Fax
708
Contact(s)
710
Product Lines
712
Association(s)
714
Locations
716
ProviderID

FIG. 9

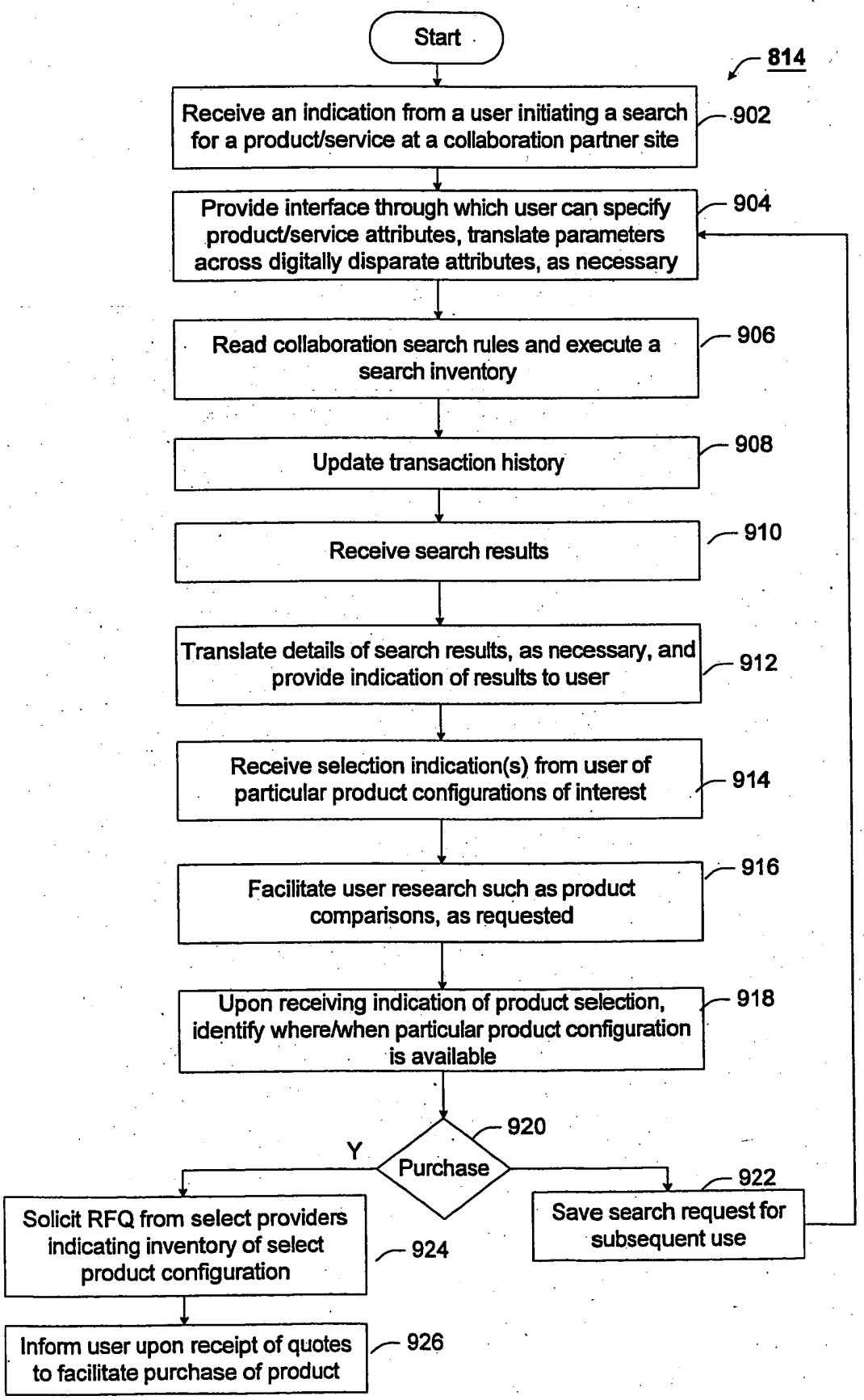

Start
814
Receive an indication from a user initiating a search for a product/service at a collaboration partner site
902
Provide interface through which user can specify product/service attributes, translate parameters across digitally disparate attributes, as necessary
904
Read collaboration search rules and execute a search inventory
906
Update transaction history
908
Receive search results
910
Translate details of search results, as necessary, and provide indication of results to user
912
Receive selection indication(s) from user of particular product configurations of interest
914
Facilitate user research such as product comparisons, as requested
916
Upon receiving indication of product selection, identify where/when particular product configuration is available
918
Purchase
920
Y
Solicit RFQ from select providers indicating inventory of select product configuration
924
Save search request for subsequent use
922
Inform user upon receipt of quotes to facilitate purchase of product
926

FIG. 10

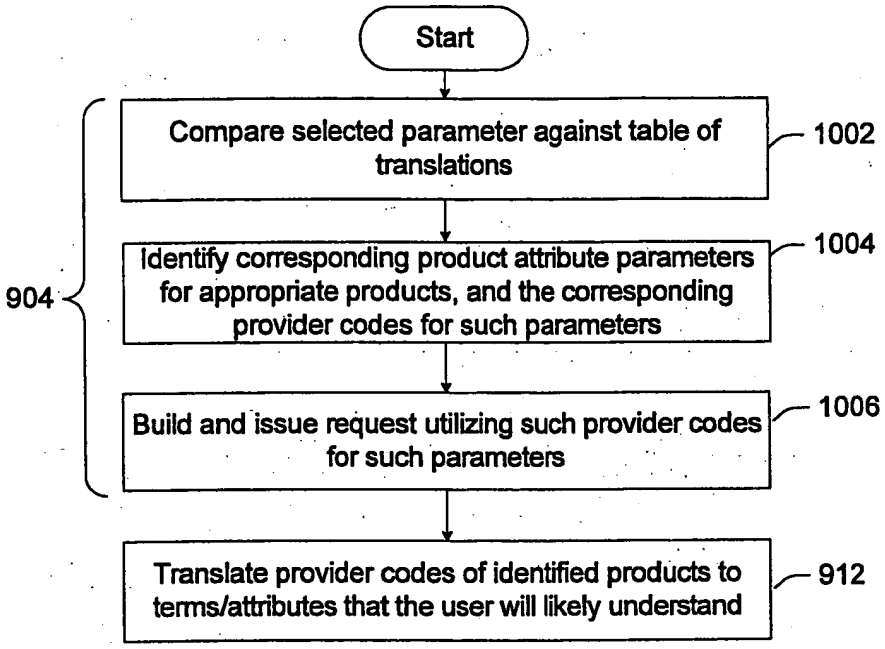

Start
Compare selected parameter against table of translations
1002
Identify corresponding product attribute parameters for appropriate products, and the corresponding provider codes for such parameters
1004
904
Build and issue request utilizing such provider codes for such parameters
1006
Translate provider codes of identified products to terms/attributes that the user will likely understand
912

FIG. 11

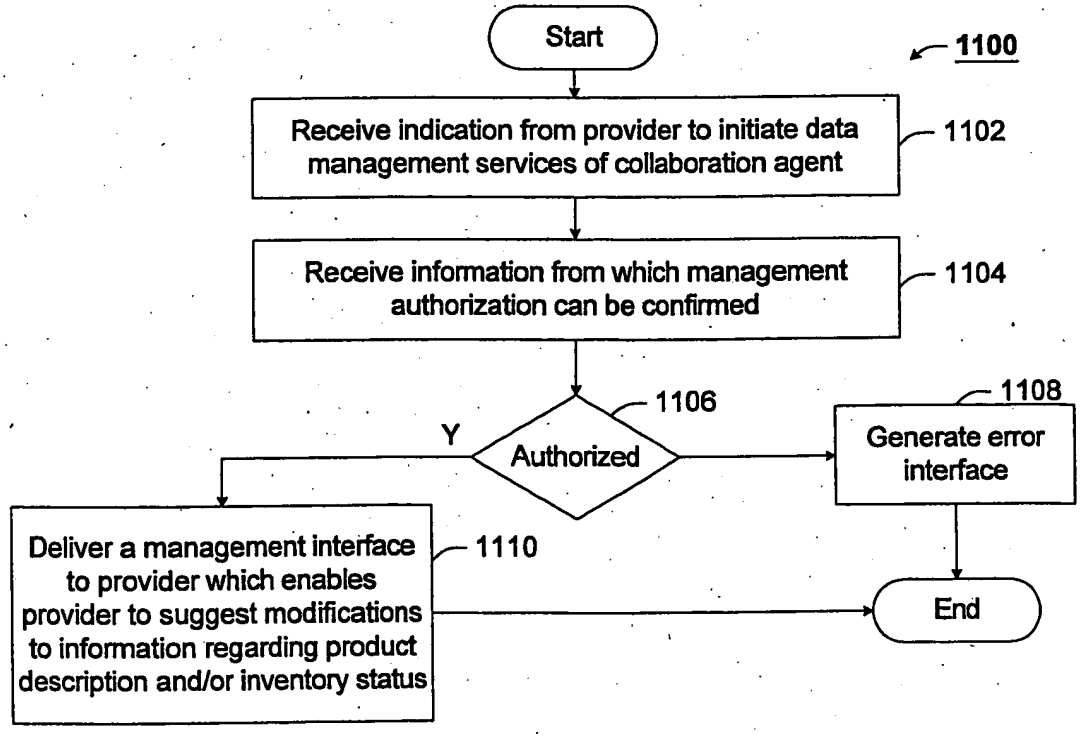

Start
1100
Receive indication from provider to initiate data management services of collaboration agent
1102
Receive information from which management authorization can be confirmed
1104
1106
Authorized
Y
1108
Generate error interface
Deliver a management interface to provider which enables provider to suggest modifications to information regarding product description and/or inventory status
1110
End

FIG. 12

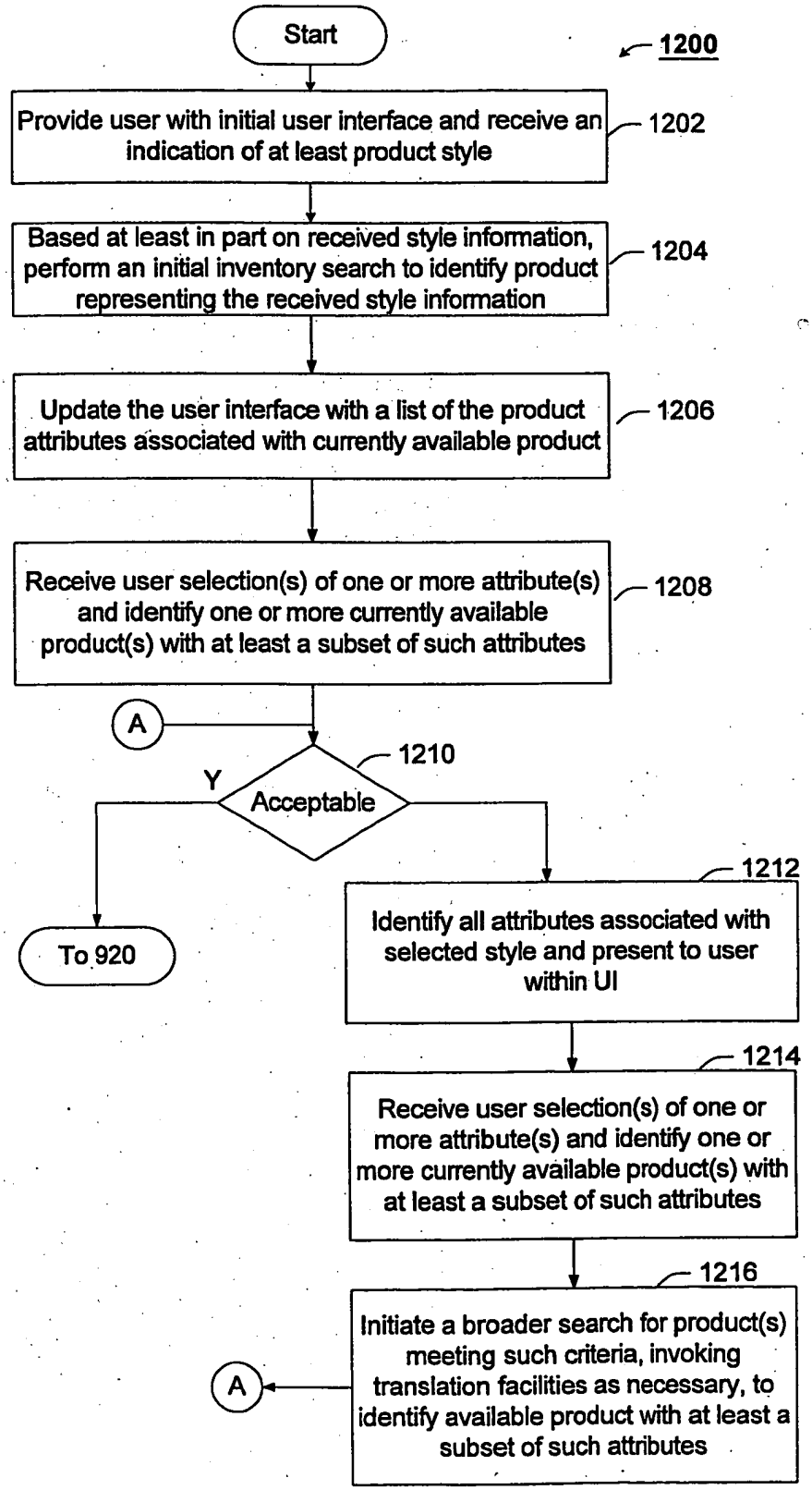

Start
1200
Provide user with initial user interface and receive an indication of at least product style
1202
Based at least in part on received style information, perform an initial inventory search to identify product representing the received style information
1204
Update the user interface with a list of the product attributes associated with currently available product
1206
Receive user selection(s) of one or more attribute(s) and identify one or more currently available product(s) with at least a subset of such attributes
1208
A
1210
Y
Acceptable
To 920
1212
Identify all attributes associated with selected style and present to user within UI
1214
Receive user selection(s) of one or more attribute(s) and identify one or more currently available product(s) with at least a subset of such attributes
1216
Initiate a broader search for product(s) meeting such criteria, invoking translation facilities as necessary, to identify available product with at least a subset of such attributes
A

FIG. 14

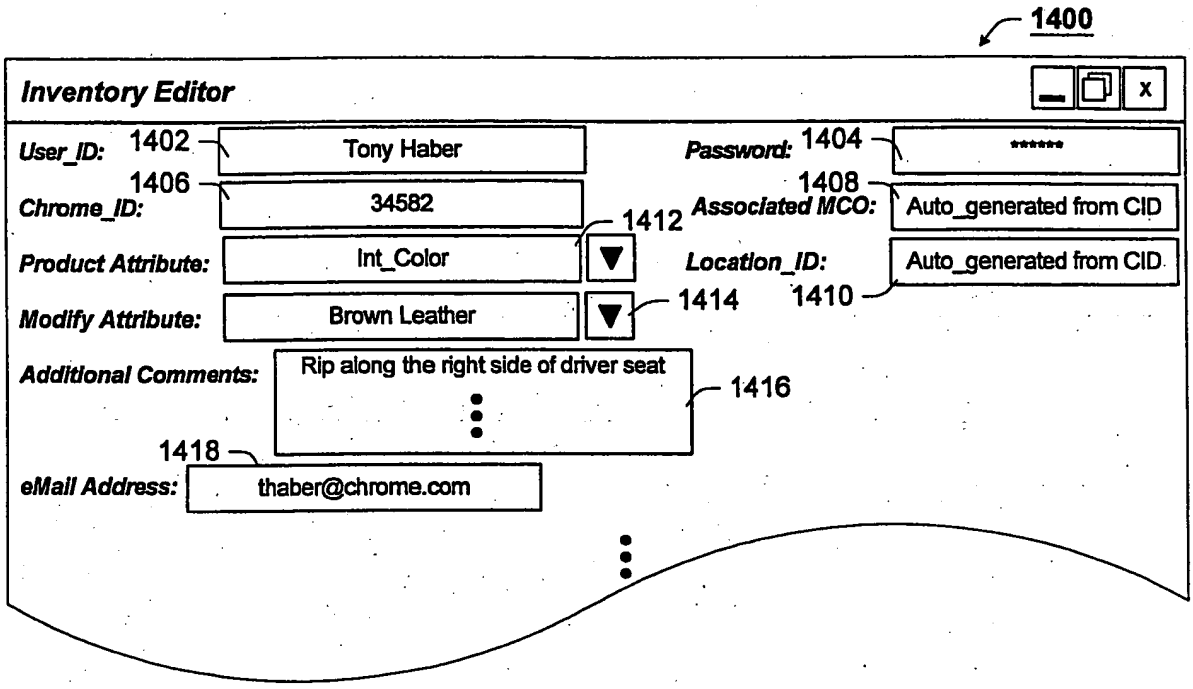

1400
Inventory Editor
User_ID:
1402
Tony Haber
Password:
1404
******
Chrome_ID:
1406
34582
1408
Associated MCO:
Auto_generated from CID
1412
Product Attribute:
Int_Color
Location_ID:
Auto_generated from CID
1410
Modify Attribute:
Brown Leather
1414
Additional Comments:
Rip along the right side of driver seat
1416
1418
eMail Address:
thaber@chrome.com

FIG. 17

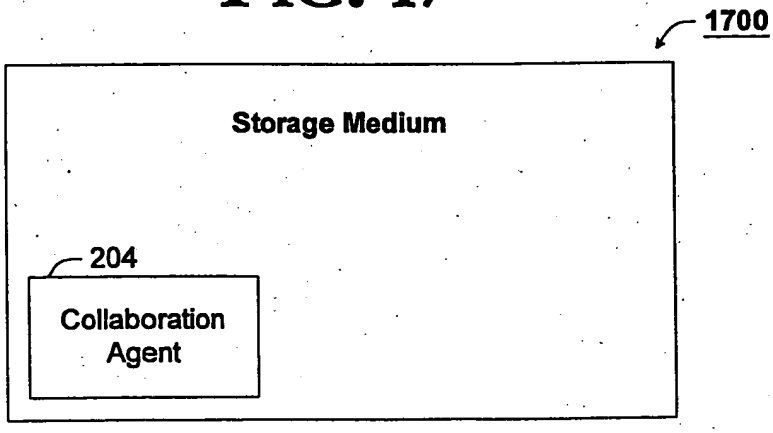

1700
Storage Medium
204
Collaboration Agent

FIG. 13

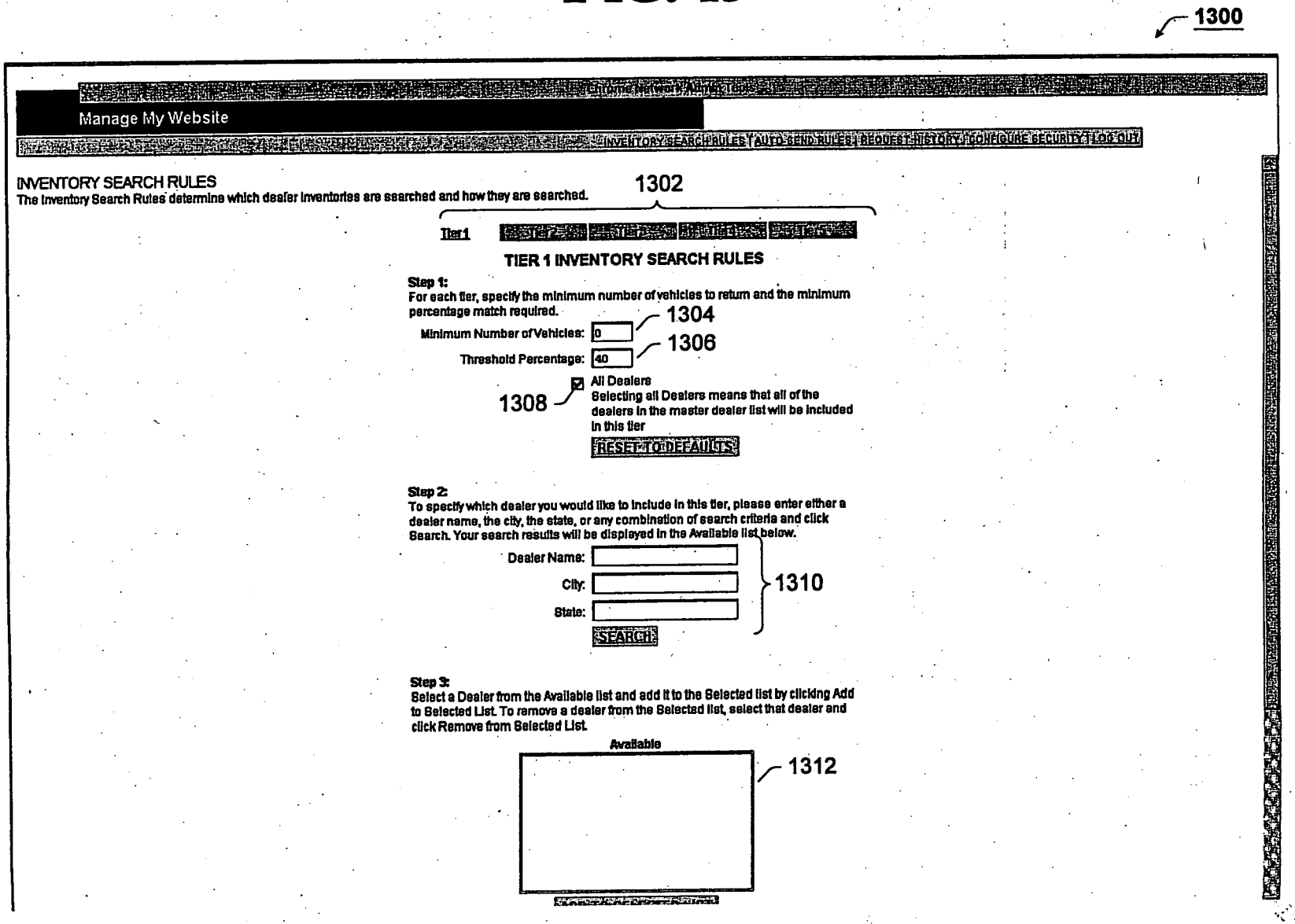
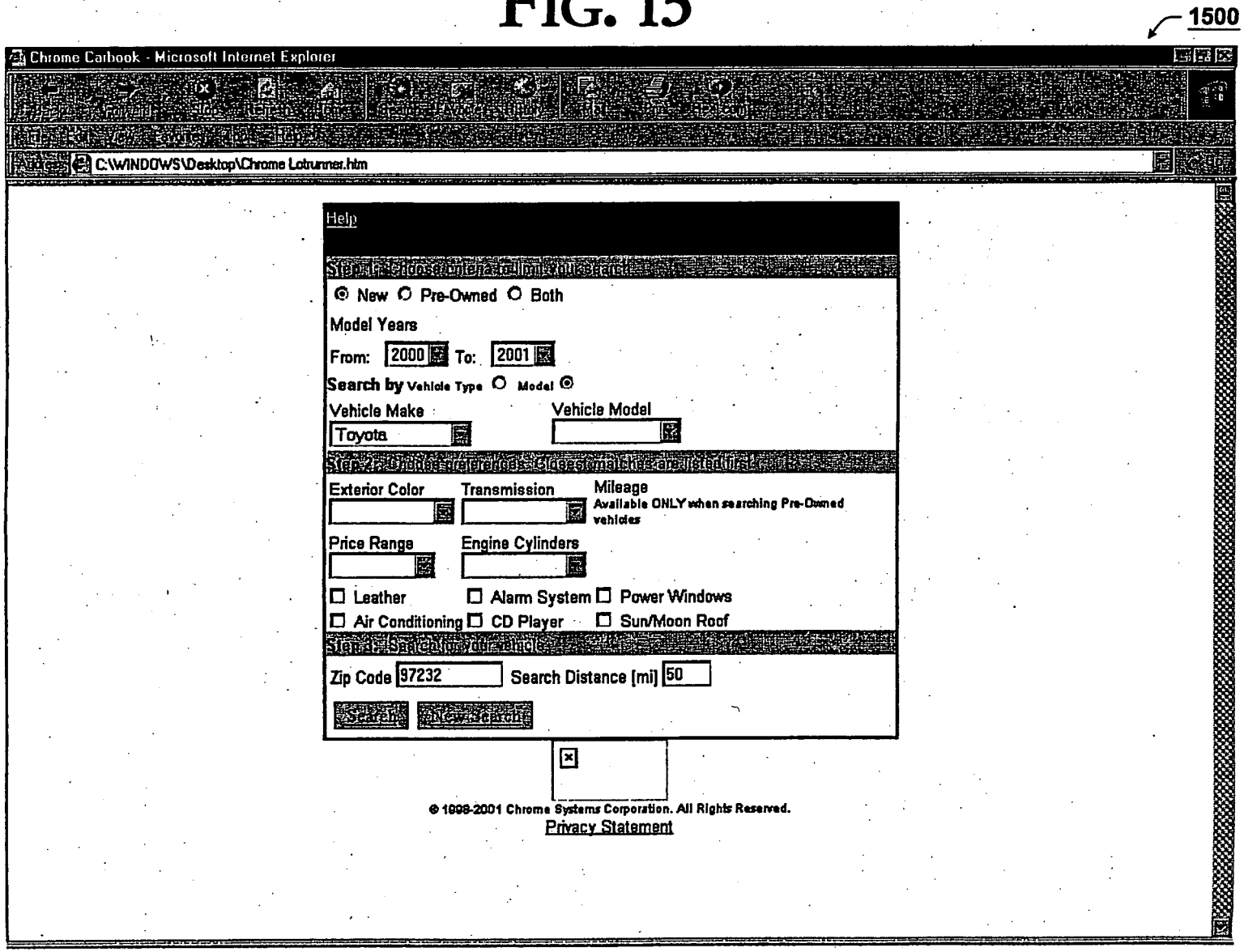

1300
Manage My Website
INVENTORY SEARCH RULES | AUTO-SEND RULES | REQUEST HISTORY | CONFIGURE SECURITY | LOG OUT
INVENTORY SEARCH RULES
The Inventory Search Rules determine which dealer inventories are searched and how they are searched.
1302
Tier 1
TIER 1 INVENTORY SEARCH RULES
Step 1:
For each tier, specify the minimum number of vehicles to return and the minimum percentage match required.
Minimum Number of Vehicles: 0
1304
Threshold Percentage: 40
1306
1308
All Dealers
Selecting all Dealers means that all of the dealers in the master dealer list will be included in this tier
RESET TO DEFAULTS
Step 2:
To specify which dealer you would like to include in this tier, please enter either a dealer name, the city, the state, or any combination of search criteria and click Search. Your search results will be displayed in the Available list below.
Dealer Name:
City:
State:
1310
SEARCH
Step 3:
Select a Dealer from the Available list and add it to the Selected list by clicking Add to Selected List. To remove a dealer from the Selected list, select that dealer and click Remove from Selected List.
Available
1312

FIG. 15


1500
Chrome Carbook - Microsoft Internet Explorer
C:\WINDOWS\Desktop\Chrome Lotrunner.htm
Help
New
Pre-Owned
Both
Model Years
From:
2000
To:
2001
Search by Vehicle Type
Model
Vehicle Make
Toyota
Vehicle Model
Exterior Color
Transmission
Mileage
Available ONLY when searching Pre-Owned vehicles
Price Range
Engine Cylinders
Leather
Alarm System
Power Windows
Air Conditioning
CD Player
Sun/Moon Roof
Zip Code
97232
Search Distance [mi]
50
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